

June 20, 1998

Lester Snow
CalFed Bay/Delta Program
1416 Ninth Street Suite 1155
Sacramento, CA 95814

01708
JUL 01 1998

RE: CalFed Draft Programmatic EIR/EIS

Dear Mr. Snow:

I appreciate all of the work and long hours you and your many collaborators have put into the CalFed Bay/Delta process. I would like to comment briefly on the draft EIR/EIS.

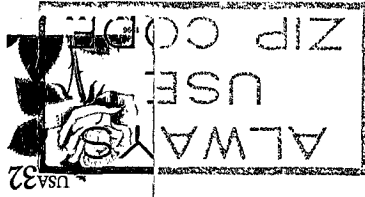
- 1) I would like to see **water conservation** receive greater priority in your alternatives. As the three alternatives sell conservation short, it might be best to develop a fourth alternative that requires real conservation as a means to save water and meet the user and environmental needs of this project. Expecting agriculture to save less than 1 percent of their current use is not an expectation; it's a capitulation. Don't you think that innovation and dedication among farmers and water districts can result in savings of half of current use? Sell it as an environmental protection measure and as a long-term financial savings measure and these water users will rise to the occasion.
- 2) I would like to see more emphasis placed on **watershed restoration** as a means of both saving water and producing high-quality water. The upstream counties in the Sierra foothills and above are ready to restore their watersheds for both environmental and economic reasons (the recreation dollars that flow uphill to well-tended forest lands). The result will be cleaner runoff that's held in check longer by healthy forests during storms and warm springs, with fully recharging groundwater systems providing additional storage. Healthy watersheds can do the job of dams without the negative environmental consequences dams bring.
- 3) I would like to see **more flowing water** in the rivers, streams, and Bay/Delta region of this project. That makes for a healthier ecosystem, top to bottom, which is in our interests both as water consumers and as lords of the plant and animal kingdoms.

Please add me to your mailing list on this project. And send along any more information you might have that could improve my knowledge on any of these points. Thank you for your time, and good luck in your continued efforts.



Jeff Putman • P.O. Box 2244 • Mammoth Lakes • CA • 93546 • 760.934.8492

C-015784



DEPARTMENT OF
WATER RESOURCES
SACRAMENTO

98 JUL -3 AM 10:53



35519/3303

Delta Snow
Control/Day Delta Program
1416 Ninth Street
Suite 1155
Sacramento, CA 95814

Jeff Putman
PO Box 2244
Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546-2244



C-015784